

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 09883 211121Z

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ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9883

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, INTELSAT, PORG, TW, CH, PK,

SUBJECT: INTELSAT: CHINA ISSUE

REFERENCES: (A) ISLAMABAD 9608; (B) STATE 232550,

1. ON SEPTEMBER 21, E/C COUNS CALLED AGAIN ON MFA DIRGEN RAIS KHAN AND FOUND MUCH CONFUSION AND LITTLE PROGRESS ON THIS ISSUE.

2. KHAN SAID THAT FOLLOWING LAST MEETING WITH EMBOFF (REF-TEL A), HIS MINISTRY HAD SHARED CONTENTS OF OUR AIDE MEMOIRE, NAMELY NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF TAIWAN AND OUR HOPE FOR TAIWAN'S CONTINUED ACCESS TO INTELSAT SYSTEM, WITH PRC AND ASKED FOR THEIR VIEWS AND INSTRUCTIONS. THE RESPONSE GOP GOT, HE SAID, WAS VAGUE AND PROVIDED LITTLE GUIDANCE AS TO HOW PAKS SHOULD ACT EITHER ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION OR ON THE CONTINUED ACCESS ISSUE. PRC MERELY REFERRED TO ITS OPPOSITION TO TWO-CHINA THEORY. AS A RESULT, PAKS HAVE SENT SECOND MESSAGE TO PEKING ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION, AND RESPONSE IS BEING AWAITED. IF IT IS NOT RECEIVED, RAIS SAID, HE WAS AT A LOSS TO KNOW HOW HIS MINISTRY SHOULD PROCEED.

3. REPEATING WHAT HE SAID AT THE LAST MEETING, KHAN THOUGHT IT MADE NO SENSE FOR PAKISTAN TO SPONSOR A RESOLUTION ON

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 09883 211121Z

CHINESE MEMBERSHIP IN LIGHT OF TAIWAN'S WITHDRAWAL. IN

THE ABSENCE, HOWEVER, OF CHINESE INSTRUCTIONS, HIS MINISTRY HAD SO FAR TAKEN NO ACTION TO WITHDRAW ITEM FROM AGENDA NOR HAD PAKISTAN CONSULTED ANY OTHER CO-SPONSORS (UNNAMED).

4. KHAN WONDERED WHETHER THE PROPOSED MODALITIES FOR TAIWAN'S CONTINUED ACCESS TO THE SYSTEM MIGHT BE UNCLEAR TO PEKING AND HAMPERING PEKING'S DECISION. HE SUGGESTED THAT IF THE DEPT HAD ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT HOW ACCESS WOULD WORK THAT THIS BE SHARED WITH THE PAK EMB IN WASHINGTON WHICH, HE SAID, WAS BEING KEPT FULLY INFORMED ABOUT THE ISSUE AND IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH CHINESE.

5. ASKED WHO WOULD BE REPRESENTING GOP AT THE INTEL SAT MEETING IN NAIROBI, KHAN SAID THAT THE HEAD OF DELEGATION WOULD BE S.A. SIDDIQUI, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF PAK T&T. NOBODY WOULD BE GOING FROM THE FORMIN BUT A PAK EMB NAIROBI OFFICER WOULD BE ASSIGNED.

6. COMMENT: OUR GUESS FROM THIS END IS THAT ISSUE MAY COME DOWN TO THE WIRE (SEPT 27) WITHOUT ANY CLEAR VIEWS FROM PEKING ON TAIWAN ACCESS ISSUE. CHIREPS MAY NOT FEEL THEY CAN OR WISH TO COMMIT THEMSELVES IN ADVANCE.
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